

## AT THE RICHMOND THEATRES THIS WEEK

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.  
Friday night—Viola Allen, in "The White Sister."  
BIJOU THEATRE.  
"Convict 999" all the week.  
LUBIN THEATRE.  
Continuous Vaudeville.

Viola Allen, in "The White Sister."  
Viola Allen will be seen here in a new play, the title of which is "The White Sister." Her latest vehicle is the work of F. Marion Crawford, whose novels are world famous, and Walter Hackett, author of numerous plays and short stories. The date for this performance is announced by the management of the Academy as Friday night, and the engagement is for one performance.

"The White Sister" is the dramatic story of a nun, Sister Giovanna by name, and when the curtain rises on the first act of this remarkable play the audience finds her happy and contented, living her life in an ivy-covered convent just outside the confines of Rome.

Her life work is before her, and she is known the length and breadth of the provinces for her generous sympathy. Her existence is ideal from the standpoint of the church. She has loved, and her life has been much the same as that of any young Italian woman of high birth, prior to taking the veil some five years before the action of the play begins. The lover to whom she was betrothed went away to war, and every man in his regiment has been reported lost. He has not been heard from for five years, and there is no doubt in the mind of the Italian girl but that he has perished. Thus she is cheerful and happy in the thought that she is living as he would want her to live, when, without a warning, she is brought face to face with her betrothed, who has escaped from the prison where he was confined after being captured on the battlefield.

The wonderful dramatic tension of this meeting in the sunlit garden of a romantic old convent is one of the most startling situations conceived by a playwright of any time, and it cannot be imagined unless one sees this inspiring performance.

The second act of "The White Sister" commences the struggle between the church and the man for possession of Sister Giovanna, and the mastery in which Mr. Crawford and Mr. Hackett have dealt with their extremely delicate subject is a revelation in the art of writing. It is a



Viola Allen and her extraordinary company in one of the many dramatic scenes in "The White Sister," at the Academy on Friday, April 23.

struggle between love and duty, and Sister Giovanna struggles with her ecclesiastic determination. The love of the soldier beckons her to forsake her vows, made in ignorance of his escape from death, and the honor of her pledge argues that duty and love of her church command that she remain within the bonds of her order. It is an inspiring struggle, a battle of emotions greater by far than any physical warfare might portray, and the conflict is sharp and furious. This emo-

tional strife forms the basis for the introduction of subplot and incident which give to "The White Sister" a continued interest not to be found in any other similar play.

"The White Sister" has that interest maintained without cessation throughout its entire course, and its greatest claim for what may be called "popularity" lies in the fact that the authors have kept the element of suspense alive throughout every act, and a satisfying outcome is not suspected until just before the final curtain.

#### "Convict 999."

The sensational melodramatic production, "Convict 999," which comes to the Bijou for a week's run to-morrow, is said to have achieved one of the solid successes of last season. Unlike the majority of the plays of its class, it does not depend upon its sensational features for success, for, while its four acts and thirteen scenes settings frame an unusual number of startling situations and many thrills, its strongest elements are an original coherent story and an intensely interesting modern theme. The plot unfolds itself in New York, Sing Sing Prison and on the banks of the Hudson River. Its central character is a young militiaman, named Dick Thurston, who is the affianced lover of a beautiful society girl, Alice Bradstone, daughter of Judge Bradstone, of the Criminal Court of New York.

The grand annual ball of the Eighth Regiment, of which Dick is captain, is about to take place at the armory, and the young people are supremely happy in anticipation of a merry evening together. The ball is a brilliant affair. In the midst of the festivities, however, there is a great commotion. A woman has been found murdered in an obscure alcove, stabbed to the heart with a knife which the janitor had loaned to Dick Thurston not ten minutes before. Assistant District Attorney John Blaisdell is among the guests, and at once orders the young captain's arrest. Dick is taken into custody and later tried and convicted of the crime on strong circumstantial evidence and sentenced to the electric chair. He is taken to Sing Sing and becomes "Convict 999," an inmate of one of the "condemned cells." There is a revolt of the convicts, and with the rest the young man escapes, and then the story goes on to its finish. "Convict 999" is said to leave a lasting impression on account of its clever construction and the unusual excellence of the company which Manager Woods has provided to interpret it.

#### At the Lubin.

Many excellent features in music, travesty, singing, dancing and Tyrolean warbling will be found in the bill to be offered at the Lubin for the week, not to mention the excellent pictures, which always prove a source of great interest.

Among the vaudeville numbers will be Bell and Richards, in a musical concoction in which they use electrical and mechanical effects to great advantage. Their act is one of the most novel musical numbers in vaudeville.

Kraft and Myrtle will be seen in an up-to-date singing and dancing number, which gives them an excellent opportunity to get in some clever character work.

Wilton and Eaton will offer a travesty sketch that is said to be amusing.

Karl Admont, a Tyrolean warbler and musical genius, will present one of the most interesting vaudeville numbers yet brought to Richmond. Admont is said to possess an extraordinarily sweet voice and to be thoroughly proficient on a half-dozen or more stringed instruments.

The Lubin pictures will measure fully up to the usual Lubin standard. Continuous performances are given daily, beginning at 2 in the afternoon.



William Farnum, in "The White Sister," at the Academy on Friday, April 23.

cently ran an entire year in New York City. The new stock company, although unknown to Richmond, has met with favor in Baltimore and Washington, and includes many players who have become well known in this city with the Fawcett Stock Company and other organizations.

The style of plays to be presented will be high-class society comedies. Mr. Page announces that he believes this to be the most successful type of summer entertainment, and that he will not produce either melodramas or highly emotional plays, but will confine himself to the comedy productions which will show the women in handsome modern clothes and the men at their best. "Mrs. Temple's Telegram" is a clever comedy of modern life, with an interesting story and great humorous possibilities. In the stock company will be Miss Carroll McComas, the leading woman, a native of California, and a great favorite in stock companies on the Pacific coast; Frank Sylvester, the leading man, a splendid comedian who is well known in Richmond; Alfred Hudson, the veteran comedian who was here many seasons with the Fawcett Company; Miss Mabel Freneyer, one of the most striking beauties of the stage, recently here with Annie Russell in "The Stronger Sex"; and many others. The prices will be reduced to the popular scale, and it is believed that the new stock company will meet with such success here that it will remain at the Academy all summer.

#### WIZARD "DOWN AND OUT"

Jack Schaefer's Friends Arrange Novel Benefit for Him.

Jack Schaefer, the little wizard of billiards, is "down and out" in Denver. He is unable to ever play again, and his friends have decided to arrange a benefit that will help him to spend his declining days in comfort.

The benefit will be one of the most remarkable in the history of sport. Every billiard room in the country has agreed on April 25 to "Schaefer night." It is the intention of the committee in charge to get all the stars to play exhibition games, and have the entire gross proceeds turned into the fund. With one accord all the lights in the billiard world have gladly professed their services, and it is certain that the thousands who have seen the Wizard in action will help the good cause.



KARL ADMONT, AT THE LUBIN.

## The COUPON in Every Can of Luzianne Coffee

brings a beautiful premium free, not as an inducement to buy, but as an appreciation of patronage.

SOLD EVERYWHERE—25 cts.

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## Rockbridge Alum Springs

(Incorporated)

Open June 1st.

This famous summer resort will open its season under the new management June 1st.

During the winter it has been equipped with a new and modern lighting plant; it has been repainted, renovated and disinfected; the modern conveniences have been overhauled and the sanitary equipment improved and extended; a swimming pool constructed.

First-class livery. All trains will be met at Milboro, five miles from the springs, on the main line of the Chesapeake and Ohio railway.

Waters of the Rockbridge Alum Springs have the endorsement of the best medical talent of America. Specific for Dyspepsia, Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Scrofulous troubles and troubles peculiar to women.



GERTRUDE DOHERTY, in "Convict 999."

## LUBIN THEATRE

For the coming week will offer

BELL and RICHARDS,

In a superb electrical musical novelty act.

KARL ADMONT,

Tyrolean warbler and musical genius, with other excellent features in vaudeville and pictures.

Continuous performances from 2 to 11 daily.

Admission 10 cents; ladies and children at matinees 5 cents.

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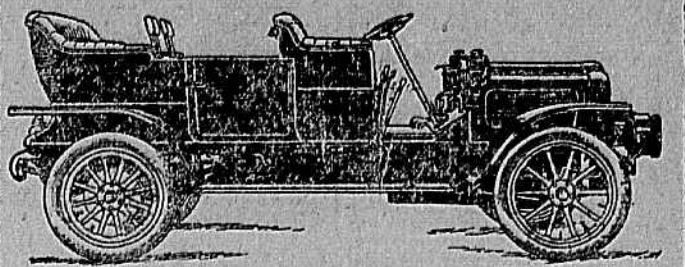
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No matter what you have tried or how much you suffer, don't lose a day—get a bottle of Rheumateur at once. Ask any druggist. It has twenty years' successful record in curing others, and it will cure you. The very best test is a personal trial. You risk only a few cents, and if you delay you continue to suffer. Be wise.

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20-horse power car, \$2,000; 40-horse power, \$4,000.

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MATINEES TUESDAY, THURSDAY, SATURDAY

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OFFERS THE PEER OF ALL MELODRAMAS.

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Greatest of Plays by Owen Davis  
In Four Acts and Fifteen Scenes

More Scenery More Sensations  
More Electric Effects Than Any Two Shows

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Assisted by WILLIAM FARNUM

AND AN ALL-STAR CAST OF RENOWNED PLAYERS.  
IN THE MOST DISCUSSED PLAY OF THE DECADE.

# THE WHITE SISTER

"A stirring drama of love and duty, powerful in its fascination and rich in the fragrance of Italian romance."

BY F. MARION CRAWFORD AND WALTER HACKETT.  
PRICES: 60c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00.  
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